

Question 1: *You have probably noticed that people in Kalpattu are engaged in a variety of non-farm work. List five of these.*

Answer: *The various farm activities are listed below.*

1. Trading
2. Teaching
3. Blacksmith
4. Making baskets and utensils.

Question 2: *List the different types of people you read about in Kalpattu who depend on farming. Who is the poorest among them and why?*

Solution 2: *The big farmers, small farmers and landless farmers depend on farming.*

The landless farmer is the poorest among them because he does not own land. The landless farmer has to depend on others for his livelihood. Moreover, the wages are very low for such people.

3. Imagine you are a member of a fishing family and you are discussing whether to take a loan from the bank for an engine. What would you say?

Solution 3: *I will prefer to take a loan from the bank because interest rate for bank loan is low. I will also have to plan properly so that I could repay the loan in time. Fitting an engine in my catamaran will help me in fishing in deep waters. This will ensure bigger catch and better income*

4. Poor rural labourers like Thulasi often do not have access to good medical facilities, good schools and other resources. You have read about inequality in the first unit of this text. The difference between her and Ramalingam is one of inequality. Do you think this is a fair situation? What do you think can be done? Discuss in class.

Solution 4:

The difference between Thulasi and Ramalingam does not show a fair situation. This happens because of inequality in incomes. The government needs to help out people like Thulasi. Government should enforce the minimum wages so that Thulasi can earn more. Employment generation

programmes; like MNREGA can also help in improving the condition of Thulasi.

5. What do you think the government can do to help farmers like Sekar when they get into debt? Discuss.

Solution 5:

1. Provide subsidies for fertilizers and pesticides.
2. Provide low-interest loans.
3. Provide Minimum Support Price for crops.

6. Compare the situation of Sekar and Ramalingam by filling out the following table:

Solution 6:

	<i>Sekar</i>	<i>Ramalingam</i>
<i>Land cultivated</i>	<i>Around 2 acres</i>	<i>Around 20 acres</i>
<i>Land Required</i>	<i>Not required</i>	<i>Required in large numbers</i>
<i>Loans Required</i>	<i>Yes for seeds and fertilisers</i>	<i>Yes for setting up for rice mills</i>
<i>Shelling of Harvest</i>	<i>Sell at low cost to lenders</i>	<i>Sell at a high cost to traders</i>
<i>Other work is done by them</i>	<i>Work as labourers in Ramalingam rice mills</i>	<i>Own rice mills and several shops</i>
